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The Oriole, that gay young spark:
The thrush, swift, robin, wren,
The martin, and the meadow-lark
Come back to us again.

And fawning honors we must do
Unto this dandy rout.
This debonair, soft-fluting crew
Must drive the sparrow out!

The gable-angle, come what will,
Must serve the martin's rest,
The elm-crutch near the window-sill¹
Must hold the robin's nest.

The drooping maple-bough must sway²
For Oriole's silken ease.
Wo to the sparrow that says nay
To our sublime decrees!

I do not like the sparrow's dress.
It is as dull as dirt;
I do not like his quarrelsomeness;
He's impudent and pert.

But as for me, he's free to hold
What's his by gallant fight.
No silver song or coat of gold
Shall blind me to his right.

Campion College, JAMES J. DALY, S.J.
Prairie Du Chien, Wisconsin.

Fulgens Oriolus¹, ludere cui placet,
chaeturae, merulae, troglodytae simul
cum turdis volant: mox et hirundines
sturnellaeque petunt domos.

Sane nunc opus est cedere protinus
blandis alitibus prima sedilia:
audet turba canens haec volucrum rapax
nidis pellere passeret!

Per fas atque nefas angulus eminens
tectorum celeres condit hirundines;
ulmus prae domibus provida ramulis
implumes merulas tegit.

Festinant aceris³ pendula brachia
nidos oriolis pandere sericos.
At, vae passeribus, si libeat sacris
his obsistere legibus!

Vestis passeris, heu! quam mihi displicet!
telluri niger est tam similis color!
pectus nec placuit litigiosus,
audax nec petulantia!

Securus teneat—pace tamen mea—
quidquid Marte potens arripuit! Mihi
nullum dulce melos nec chlamys aurea
tollent debita passerum!

ANTONIUS FRANCISCUS GEYSER. S.J.
E Seminario S. Stanislai,
Florissant, Missouri.

"FROZEN FEET FROM TIGHT LACINGS AND STRAPS"

In a paragraph of a recent number of the Boston Transcript under the above caption it is stated that

In the French Army during November, at the end of a rainy season, there came many soldiers to the hospital with a diagnosis of frozen feet. The similarity of the wounds was apparent to Dr. Temoin, who investigated the matter and has reached the conclusion that it is tight lacing that is at the bottom of the trouble and not the frost. He notes before the French Academy of Medicine that arrested circulation is responsible for the injuries. The excessive wet weather, in shrinking the straps of gaiters, the gaiters themselves and other fabrics that form ligatures, incapacitated the men. . . .

It was noticed by this authority that all of the men injured were from the first line of trenches, none whatever from the second and third, the latter having opportunity to take better care of themselves and to remove their clothing.

The student of Xenophon's *Anabasis* is at once reminded of the passage, 4. 5. 12-14, where Xenophon says,

Some of the soldiers lost their toes by mortification because of the cold. . . . One could protect himself against this by keeping constantly in motion and by taking off his shoes at night. The thongs cut into the feet of those who slept with their shoes on and the shoes froze fast. This was the case, because, after their old shoes gave out, they had made themselves brogues of newly-skinned oxen.

Manifestly it was the shrinking of the lacings of untanned leather which caused the trouble.

WASHINGTON AND JEFFERSON
COLLEGE.

HAMILTON FORD ALLEN.

MORE WAR NOTES

The Philadelphia Public Ledger of March 19 displayed pictures of French grenade throwers. One man was having his armor put on him by a friend; the other man was in the attitude of throwing the grenade. Their bodies were protected by steel breast-plates; their heads were encased in close-fitting caps, probably of metal, rather reminiscent of some of the simpler forms of ancient headgear; on their left arms they bore shields of rectangular shape, closely resembling the *scutum* of the Romans. Even the titles given to the pictures were reminders of the Classics: "Donning his armor: a twentieth century Hector preparing for battle in the Meuse valley", and "As though he were under the walls of old Troy: this French grenade thrower wears breastplate of steel and carries a shield".

The other item is a news despatch from Athens, dated March 18:

During the mine-sweeping practice by Greek naval vessels in the Bay of Eleusis this week obstacles were encountered which are thought to be Persian galleys of Xerxes's fleet, sunk 2400 years ago.

Efforts will be made after the war to investigate these sunken obstacles further.

UNIVERSITY OF PENNSYLVANIA.

ROLAND G. KENT.

¹NOTE. oriole: Oriolus (gabula); thrush: Turdus (cyanea); swift: Chaetura (pelagica); robin: Merula (migratoria); wren: Troglodytes (aedon); martin: Hirundo (urbica); meadow-lark: Sturnella (magna). elm: ulmus (Americana). ²maple: acer (rubrum).